

Message Text

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ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00
CCO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 USSS-00 SY-05 PRS-01
FBIE-00 SYE-00 /047 W
-----211321Z 043257 /42
R 211254Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2883

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ATTN: WHITE HOUSE FOR APPOINTMENTS SECRETARY AND
ADVANCE OFFICE STATE FOR A.

ALSO FOR SCA/SCS AND EUR/NE

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY) OCON, UK
SUBJECT: THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO EUROPE (REQUEST FOR
APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT BY MRS. CYNTHIA FRASER SMITH
OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

1. US CITIZEN CYNTHIA FRASER SMITH, A 23 YEAR-OLD
NATIVE OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, CURRENTLY RESIDING IN
BISHOPS AUCKLAND, DURHAM COUNTY, ENGLAND, AN AREA
IN NORTHEAST ENGLAND NEAR SITE OF PRESIDENTIAL VISIT
ON MAY 6, HAS BEEN ENGAGED DURING LAST 14 MONTHS IN

LEGAL BATTLE TO REGAIN CUSTODY OF HER DAUGHTER, RACHEL
FRASER, WHO WAS BORN IN GEORGIA ON OCTOBER 18, 1974.
MRS. SMITH IS DEMANDING TO SEE THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS
MAY 6 VISIT TO NORTHEAST ENGLAND.

2. THE CHILD, RACHEL FRASER, WAS APPARENTLY BROUGHT TO
ENGLAND IN 1976 BY HER BRITISH NATIONAL FATHER, FOLLOW-
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ING COLLAPSE OF MARRIAGE OF MR. AND MRS. FRASER.

3. CYNTHIA FRASER HAS REMARRIED BRITISH NATIONAL
DENNIS SMITH HERE IN ENGLAND DURING HER PRESENT
SOJOURN HERE. HER FIRST HUSBAND'S SURNAME IS FRASER;
HER SECOND IS SMITH; HER MAIDEN NAME IS NOT KNOWN.

4. MRS. SMITH REPORTS SHE LOST HER FIRST COURT BATTLE SOME TIME AGO WHEN THE MAGISTRATE IN HULL, ENGLAND FOUND AGAINST HER REQUEST FOR CUSTODY ON THE GROUNDS THAT SHE HAD NO FIXED ADDRESS. SHE IS CONTINUING THE LEGAL BATTLE AND HOPES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE HIGH COURT IN LONDON IN THE RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE.

5. EMBASSY HAS NO RECORD OF PREVIOUS COMMUNICATION WITH CYNTHIA FRASER SMITH PRIOR TO HER LONG DISTANCE CALL ON MONDAY, APRIL 18. DURING THAT CALL SHE INDICATED SHE HAD SENT A LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER IN EARLY APRIL SOLICITING A MEETING WITH HIM AND REQUESTING HIS ASSISTANCE. SHE ALSO OUTLINED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN ABOVE PARAS. SHE HAS ALSO INDICATED THAT SHE HAD ON APRIL 18 MET WITH PRESS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE "EVENING DESPATCH," DARLINGTON, COUNTY DURHAM AND THE "NORTHERN ECHO" OUTLINING HER CASE HISTORY AND STATING IN THE "EVENING DESPATCH" THAT, "I WILL BE AT WASHINGTON, COUNTY DURHAM, ON MAY 6 WHEN PRESIDENT CARTER IS THERE AND IF AN OFFICIAL MEETING HAS NOT BEEN ARRANGED, I WILL MAKE SURE I GET TO SEE HIM."

6. MRS. SMITH SAID THAT SINCE THERE WAS NO PLACE THAT THE EMBASSY COULD CALL HER, SHE WOULD RECOMMUNICATE WITH US BETWEEN WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, AND FRIDAY, APR 22.

7. EMBASSY HAS UNDERTAKEN INQUIRIES TO OBTAIN INFO

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NSC-05 NSCE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 USSS-00 PRS-01
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ABOUT MRS. SMITH AND HER PROBLEM AND WILL REPORT FURTHER AS FACTUAL DATA IS DEVELOPED. MRS. SMITH HAS SAID THAT SHE HAS LOST FAITH IN "ENGLISH JUSTICE" AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN HER AND THAT SHE WOULD LIKE THE MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT TO PROPOSE THAT HE CREATE A NEW LAW CAUSING CHILDREN WHO ARE "KIDNAPPED" BY A PARENT OUT OF THEIR COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE BE TAKEN BACK TO THAT COUNTRY FOR COURT DECISIONS RE QUESTIONS OF CUSTODY, SUPPORT, ETC. EXPLANATIONS TO MRS. SMITH CONCERNING SOVEREIGNTY, RESPONSIBILITIES OF US CITIZENS UNDER THE LAWS OF THE LAND IN WHICH THEY ARE SOJOURNING, ETC., WERE TOTALLY REJECTED. SHE WISHES THE AMERICAN EMBASSY TO OBTAIN HER CHILD FOR HER AND RETURN IT TO HER SHE DOES NOT APPEAR TO UNDERSTAND THE DUAL CITIZENSHIP PROBABILITY OF THE CHILD. WHILE MRS. SMITH SOUNDS RATIONAL IN TELCONS, SHE ALSO SEEMS TO A LADY WITH VERY LITTLE UNDERSTANDING OF HER LEGAL SITUATION IN ENGLAND AND APPARENTLY SEES THE VISIT OF THE PRESIDENT AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK INSTANT RELIEF FROM WHAT IS A DIFFICULT AND FRUSTRATING PERSONAL SITUATION. ACCORDING

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TO THE PRESS, HER CURRENT HUSBAND DENNIS SMITH SUPPORTS HER POSITION.

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Message Attributes

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